

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
SANITATION DISTRICT**

**A COMPONENT UNIT OF
THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ**

**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2022**

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
JUNE 30, 2022**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of the
Santa Cruz County Sanitation District
Santa Cruz, California

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District (the District), a component unit of the County of Santa Cruz (the County), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the basic financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the District as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control relating to the District. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 4-7 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 21, 2022, on our consideration of the County's internal control over financial reporting relating to the District and on our tests of the County's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance relating to the District. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance relating to the District.

BROWN ARMSTRONG
ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bakersfield, California
December 21, 2022

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
JUNE 30, 2022**

INTRODUCTION

This section of the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District's (the District) annual financial report presents a discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2022. Please read it in conjunction with the District's basic financial statements following this section.

THE FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The assets of the District exceeded liabilities at the close of the 2021/2022 fiscal year by \$143,193,947 (net position). Of this amount, \$35,921,264 (unrestricted) may be used to meet ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors, and \$107,272,683 is the net investment in capital assets.
- The District's total net position increased by \$2,211,382. This is an increase of \$691,194 from the prior year's change in net position. This increase is primarily attributable to a \$1,308,054 increase in charges for services, decrease of \$805,321 in expense, offset by an increase in non-operating expense of \$1,422,181.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements comprise two components: (1) Government-wide financial statements, and (2) Notes to the basic financial statements. Fund financial statements are not included in the basic financial statements because all activities of the District are accounted for within a single enterprise fund. Enterprise funds are accounted for using the accrual method of accounting. Required Supplementary Information is included in addition to the basic financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all District assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases and decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether or not the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position* presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in a future fiscal period.

Both of these government-wide financial statements would distinguish functions of the District that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (*governmental activities*) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (*business-type activities*). However, there are no governmental activities in the District.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes to the basic financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide financial statements.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the District, assets exceeded liabilities by \$143,193,947 at the close of the most recent fiscal year. Further detail is provided in the following table:

Condensed Statements of Net Position

	2022	2021	Increase (Decrease) \$	Increase (Decrease) %
Assets				
Current assets	\$ 20,172,845	\$ 16,612,452	\$ 3,560,393	21.4%
Capital assets, net	146,302,682	147,146,106	(843,424)	-0.6%
Other noncurrent assets	20,008,924	55,077	19,953,847	36229.0%
Total Assets	186,484,451	163,813,635	22,670,816	13.8%
Liabilities				
Current liabilities	5,560,836	4,947,281	613,555	12.4%
Long-term liabilities	37,729,668	17,883,789	19,845,879	111.0%
Total Liabilities	43,290,504	22,831,070	20,459,434	89.6%
Net Position				
Net investment in capital assets	107,272,683	128,510,975	(21,238,292)	-16.5%
Unrestricted	35,921,264	12,471,590	23,449,674	188.0%
Total Net Position	\$ 143,193,947	\$ 140,982,565	\$ 2,211,382	1.6%

The significant changes in the District's net position are summarized as follows:

- Cash and investments increased by \$3,560,393 from the prior year. Further information is presented in the Statement of Cash Flows.
- Capital assets, net decreased by \$843,424 from the prior year. Further information is presented under the Capital Assets and Debt Administration section of this Management's Discussion and Analysis.
- Current liabilities increased by \$613,555 from the prior year due to the timing of projects.
- Long-term liabilities have increased by \$19,845,879. The increase is the result of the issuance of the 2022 Green Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$19,945,000 offset by loan payments on existing loans. Further information is presented under the Capital Assets and Debt Administration section of this Management's Discussion and Analysis.

Analysis of Net Position

The largest portion of the District's net position (\$107,272,683 (74.91%)) reflects its net investment in capital assets (e.g., pumping stations, transmission systems, mobile equipment, other equipment, sewage treatment plant, and construction in progress), less related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The District uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay these debts must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these debts.

The remaining balance of the District's net position (\$35,921,264 (25.09%)) is unrestricted and may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

Condensed Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

	2022	2021	Increase (Decrease) \$	Increase (Decrease) %
Revenues				
Program Revenues				
Charges for services	\$ 29,088,620	\$ 27,780,566	\$ 1,308,054	4.7%
General Revenues				
Aid from other government agencies	104,436	514,482	(410,046)	-79.7%
Investment income	78,894	92,097	(13,203)	-14.3%
Total Revenues	<u>29,271,950</u>	<u>28,387,145</u>	<u>884,805</u>	<u>3.1%</u>
Expenses				
Sanitation District	<u>27,060,568</u>	<u>26,866,957</u>	<u>193,611</u>	<u>0.7%</u>
Total Expenses	<u>27,060,568</u>	<u>26,866,957</u>	<u>193,611</u>	<u>0.7%</u>
Change in Net Position	2,211,382	1,520,188	691,194	45.5%
Net Position, Beginning	<u>140,982,565</u>	<u>139,462,377</u>	<u>1,520,188</u>	<u>1.1%</u>
Net Position, Ending	<u>\$ 143,193,947</u>	<u>\$ 140,982,565</u>	<u>\$ 2,211,382</u>	<u>1.6%</u>

Analysis of Changes in Net Position

The District's change in net position was \$2,211,382 for the current fiscal year. This is an increase of \$691,194 from the prior year's change in net position. This increase is primarily attributable to a \$1,308,054 increase in charges for services, decrease of \$805,321 in expense, offset by an increase in non-operating expense of \$1,422,181.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

The District's net capital assets as of June 30, 2022, amounted to \$146,302,682. These net capital assets include pumping stations, transmission systems, mobile equipment, other equipment, sewage treatment plant, and construction in progress.

The net decrease in the District's capital assets (net book value) for the current period was \$843,424, or 0.6%.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- Decrease to construction in progress amounted to \$7,620,863.
- Pumping station systems increased by \$9,496,977, which included construction in progress completions of \$9,436,117. The majority of the remaining changes in capital assets were additions of \$2,467,426 offset by depreciation expense of \$5,684,531.

The District's capital assets are presented below by type to illustrate changes from the prior year:

	2022	2021	Increase (Decrease) \$	Increase (Decrease) %
Pumping station systems	\$ 62,217,438	\$ 52,720,461	\$ 9,496,977	18.0%
Transmission systems	146,341,547	144,550,307	1,791,240	1.2%
Sewage treatment plant	35,924,625	35,924,625	-	0.0%
Construction in progress	6,595,166	14,216,029	(7,620,863)	-53.6%
Mobile equipment	4,846,534	4,486,450	360,084	8.0%
Other equipment	2,661,562	1,921,816	739,746	38.5%
Total cost	258,586,872	253,819,688	4,767,184	1.9%
Less accumulated depreciation	(112,284,190)	(106,673,582)	5,610,608	5.3%
Capital assets, net	\$ 146,302,682	\$ 147,146,106	\$ (843,424)	-0.6%

Long-Term Debt

At June 30, 2022, the District had total long-term debt outstanding of \$39,029,969 (including current portion of \$1,300,301) as compared to \$18,635,131 (including current portion of \$751,342) at the prior year-end. The increase is primarily the result of the issuance of the 2022 Green Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$19,945,000 offset by payments of \$887,042 on existing debt.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances for all those with an interest in the District's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Santa Cruz County Auditor-Controller, 701 Ocean Street, Room 100, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2022**

	2022
ASSETS	
Current Assets:	
Cash and investments with County Treasurer, unrestricted	\$ 20,172,845
Total Current Assets	20,172,845
Noncurrent Assets:	
Cash and investments with Fiscal Agent, restricted	20,008,924
Capital assets, net	146,302,682
Total Noncurrent Assets	166,311,606
Total Assets	186,484,451
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	4,113,313
Accrued bond interest	147,222
Loans payable, current portion	1,300,301
Total Current Liabilities	5,560,836
Noncurrent Liabilities:	
Loans payable, net	37,729,668
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	37,729,668
Total Liabilities	43,290,504
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	107,272,683
Unrestricted	35,921,264
Total Net Position	\$ 143,193,947

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these basic financial statements.

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND
CHANGES IN NET POSITION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

	2022
OPERATING REVENUES	
Charges for services	\$ 29,088,620
OPERATING EXPENSES	
General and administrative	6,296,211
Services and supplies	13,570,675
Depreciation	5,684,531
Total Operating Expenses	25,551,417
Operating Income	3,537,203
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	
Aid from other government agencies	104,436
Investment expense	(430,016)
Bond interest and related fees	(1,000,241)
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	(1,325,821)
Change in Net Position	2,211,382
Net Position - Beginning	140,982,565
Net Position - Ending	\$ 143,193,947

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these basic financial statements.

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

	2022
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Cash receipts from customers	\$ 29,143,699
Cash paid to suppliers for goods and services	(10,572,703)
Cash paid for interfund services used	(9,170,228)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	9,400,768
Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities:	
Subsidy from other government agencies	104,436
Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	104,436
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:	
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(4,841,107)
Loan proceeds	740,043
Issuance of debt	19,945,000
Principal paid on capital debt	(887,042)
Interest paid on capital debt	(462,765)
Net Cash Provided by Capital and Related Financing Activities	14,494,129
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:	
Interest and investment loss, net	(430,016)
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(430,016)
Net Increase in Cash and Investments	23,569,317
Cash and Investments, Beginning	16,612,452
Cash and Investments, Ending	\$ 40,181,769
Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Investments to the Statement of Net Position	
Cash and investments with County Treasurer, unrestricted	\$ 20,172,845
Cash and investments with Fiscal Agent, restricted	20,008,924
	\$ 40,181,769

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these basic financial statements.

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

	2022
Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash	
Provided by Operating Activities:	
Operating income	\$ 3,537,203
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation	5,684,531
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Accounts receivable	55,077
Accounts payable	123,957
	9,400,768
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ 9,400,768

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these basic financial statements.

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District (the District) have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the District's accounting policies are described below.

A. Description of the Reporting Entity

The District is managed by the Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works (Department) under the direction of the District Board of Directors. Among other assignments, the Department provides management, administration, engineering, maintenance, and construction services for the District. In addition, other Santa Cruz County (County) services provided to the District are:

1. Collection, by the Treasurer-Tax Collector, of sewer charges included on the customers' tax bills.
2. Collection of connection fees by the Planning Department.
3. Providing of investment services by the Treasurer.
4. Providing of legal services by the County Counsel.

The Department recovers its administrative costs from a 3.0% to 10.0% overhead surcharge on all services performed. Other charges related to construction and acquisitions of sewage processing facilities have been capitalized in the accompanying financial statements once the improvements or acquisitions have been completed.

The District's financial statements are presented as an enterprise fund and as a discretely presented component unit in the County's financial statements, pursuant to GASB Statement No. 61.

The District does not have employees. All employees are employees of the Department. The County charges the District a weighted labor rate for work performed on behalf of the District.

B. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Basis of Presentation

The basic financial statements include the Statement of Net Position; the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position; and the Statement of Cash Flows.

The basic financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources (whether current or noncurrent) are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position presents increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in total net position. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are earned while expenses are recognized in the period in which the liability is incurred.

The District distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the District. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Nonoperating revenues, such as property taxes and investment income, result from nonexchange transactions or ancillary activities in which the District gives (receives) value without directly receiving (giving) equal value in exchange.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

B. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Basis of Presentation (Continued)

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

The District has elected to apply all GASB pronouncements as well as any applicable pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinions, and Accounting Research Bulletins (ARB) of the Committee on Accounting Procedure unless they contradict or conflict with GASB Statement No. 61.

The District's accounting records are a part of the County's centralized accounting system.

C. Cash and Investments

The District maintains all of its cash and investments with the County Treasurer in an investment pool. On a monthly basis the County Treasurer allocates interest to participants based upon their average daily balances. Investments in the investment pool are highly liquid, as deposits and withdrawals can be made at anytime without penalty. The County does not impose any maximum investment limit. The fair value of the District's investment in this pool is reported in the accompanying financial statements at amounts based upon the District's pro-rata share of the fair value provided by the County for the entire investment pool. The balance available for withdrawal is based on the accounting records maintained by the County, which are recorded on an amortized cost basis of accounting.

D. Restricted Cash with Fiscal Agents

Restricted cash with fiscal agents is comprised of funds reserved for capital projects and debt service.

E. Inventories

Inventories consist of materials and supplies which are valued using the FIFO method (first-in, first-out).

F. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, construction in progress, buildings and improvements, improvements other than buildings, machinery and equipment, autos and trucks, equipment under capitalized leases, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, traffic signals, and similar items), are reported in the Government-Wide Financial Statements. County policy has set the capitalization threshold for reporting capital assets at \$5,000 for equipment and vehicles and \$25,000 for infrastructure, buildings, and structures. Capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost was not available. Donated assets are valued at their estimated market value on the date donated.

Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Infrastructure	4-65 years
Buildings and structures	10-50 years
Equipment and vehicles	3-15 years

For infrastructure systems, the County elected to use the "Basic Approach" as defined by GASB Statement No. 34 for infrastructure reporting.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Capital Assets (Continued)

The County defines infrastructure as the basic physical assets that allow the County to function. The assets include streets, bridges, sidewalks, drainage systems, etc. Each major infrastructure system can be divided into subsystems. For example, the street system can be subdivided into pavement, curb and gutters, sidewalks, medians, streetlights, landscaping, and land. These subsystems were not delineated in the basic financial statements. The appropriate operating department maintains information regarding the subsystems.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest on construction-related debt incurred during the period of construction is capitalized as a cost of the constructed assets.

Maintenance and repairs are charged to operations when incurred. Betterments and major improvements which significantly increase values, change capacities, or extend useful lives are capitalized. Upon sale or retirement of capital assets, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts and any resulting gain or loss is included in the results of the operations.

G. Net Position

In the Statement of Net Position, net position is classified in the following categories:

Net Investment in Capital Assets – This amount consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding debt that is attributed to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of the assets.

Restricted Net Position – This amount is restricted by external creditors, grantors, contributions, or laws or regulations of other governments.

Unrestricted Net Position – This amount consists of all net position that does not meet the definition of “net investment in capital assets” or “restricted net position.”

H. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

I. Effect of New Governmental Accounting Standards Board Pronouncements

GASB Statement No. 87 – Leases. The requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021. There was no effect on the District’s accounting and financial reporting as a result of implementing this standard.

GASB Statement No. 89 – Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred Before the End of a Construction Period. The requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2020. There was no effect on the District’s accounting and financial reporting as a result of implementing this standard.

GASB Statement No. 92 – Omnibus 2020. The requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021. There was no effect on the District’s accounting and financial reporting as a result of implementing this standard.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

I. Effect of New Governmental Accounting Standards Board Pronouncements (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 93 – *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates*. The requirements of this statement, except for paragraphs 11b, 13, and 14 are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2020. The requirement in paragraph 11b is effective for reporting periods ending after December 31, 2021. The requirements in paragraphs 13 and 14 are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021, and all reporting periods thereafter. There was no effect on the District's accounting and financial reporting as a result of implementing this standard.

GASB Statement No. 97 – *Certain Component Units Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans – An Amendment to GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 84 and a Supersession of GASB Statement No. 32*. The requirements in (1) paragraph 4 of this statement as it applies to defined contribution pension plans, defined contribution other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plans, and other employee benefit plans and (2) paragraph 5 of this statement are effective immediately. All other requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021. There was no effect on the District's accounting and financial reporting as a result of implementing this standard.

J. Future Governmental Accounting Standards Board Pronouncements

Recently released standards by GASB affecting future fiscal years are as follows:

GASB Statement No. 91 – *Conduit Debt Obligations*. The requirements of this statement were originally effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2020. GASB Statement No. 95 delayed the effective date to December 15, 2021. The District has not fully judged the effect of the implementation of GASB Statement No. 91 as of the date of the basic financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 94 – *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*. The requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022. The District has not fully judged the effect of implementation of GASB Statement No. 94 as of the date of the basic financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 96 – *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. The requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022. The District has not fully judged the effect of implementation of GASB Statement No. 96 as of the date of the basic financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 99 – *Omnibus 2022*. The requirements of this statement are effective as follows:

- The requirements related to extension of the use of the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), accounting for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) distributions, disclosures of nonmonetary transactions, pledges of future revenues by pledging governments, clarification of certain provisions in GASB Statement No. 34, as amended, and terminology updates related to GASB Statement No. 53 and GASB Statement No. 63 are effective upon issuance.
- The requirements related to leases, public-private and public-public partnerships (PPPs), and subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2022, and all reporting periods thereafter.
- The requirements related to financial guarantees and the classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of GASB Statement No. 53 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter.

The District has not fully judged the effect of the implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 as of the date of the basic financial statements.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

J. Future Governmental Accounting Standards Board Pronouncements (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 100 – *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections—an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*. The requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2023. The District has not fully judged the effect of the implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 as of the date of the basic financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 101 – *Compensated Absences*. The requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2023. The District has not fully judged the effect of the implementation of GASB Statement No. 101 as of the date of the basic financial statements.

NOTE 2 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS

A. Cash and Investments

Cash and investments are presented on the Statement of Net Position as follows at June 30, 2022:

Cash and investments with County Treasurer, unrestricted	\$ 20,172,845
Cash and investments with Fiscal Agent, restricted	<u>20,008,924</u>
Total	<u>\$ 40,181,769</u>

B. Cash Held with the Santa Cruz County Treasurer

The District pools cash from all sources and all funds except “Cash and investments with fiscal agents” with the County Treasurer so that it can be invested at the maximum yield, consistent with safety and liquidity, while individual funds can make expenditures at any time. The Santa Cruz County Treasury Oversight Committee oversees the Treasurer’s investments and policies.

The California Government Code requires California banks and savings and loan associations to secure the County’s cash deposits by pledging securities as collateral. This code states that collateral pledged in this manner shall have the effect of perfecting a security interest in such collateral superior to those of a general creditor. Thus, collateral for cash deposits is considered to be held in the County’s name.

The market value of pledged securities must equal at least 110% of the County’s cash deposits. California law also allows institutions to secure County deposits by pledging first trust deed mortgage notes having a value of 150% of the County’s total cash deposits. The County may waive collateral requirements for cash deposits, which are fully insured up to \$250,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The County, however, has not waived the collateralization requirements.

NOTE 2 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

C. Investments

The table below identifies the investment types that are authorized for the County by the California Government Code or the County’s investment policy, where more restrictive. The table also identifies certain provisions of the County’s investment policy that address interest rate risk, credit risk, and concentration risk.

Authorized Investment Types	Maximum Maturity	Maximum Percentage of Portfolio	Maximum Investment in One Issuer
Local agency bonds	5 Years	0.1	None
U.S. Treasury obligations	5 Years	1	None
U.S. Government Agency obligations	5 Years	1	0.25
Bankers' acceptances	180 Days	0.4	0.1
Commercial paper	270 Days	0.25	0.1
Negotiable certificates of deposit	5 Years	0.3	0.1
Bank deposit	5 Years	0.1	0.1
Repurchase agreements	1 Year	1	0.1
Medium-term notes	5 Years	0.3	0.1
Mutual funds/money market mutual funds	N/A	0.2	0.1
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	N/A	\$75 million	None
Joint Powers Authority investment fund	None	0.25	0.1
Supranationals	5 Years	0.3	0.1

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 31, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools*, investments were stated at fair value. The fair value of investments correlates to changes in interest rates. When interest rates increase, an investment portfolio will see a decrease in fair value, as prior securities were purchased at lower yields. Inversely, when interest rates decrease, an investment portfolio will see an increase in fair value, as prior securities were purchased at higher yields. This reporting period saw a significant increase in interest rates, which resulted in a material decrease of \$32,494,816.44 in fair value of pool investments at June 30, 2022. This has been recorded in the financial statements of all funds with equity in pooled cash and investments in the County Treasury.

Investments of debt proceeds held by the bond trustee are governed by provisions of the debt agreements, rather than the general provisions of the California Government Code or the County’s investment policy.

D. Interest Rate Risk

The County manages its exposure to declines in fair values by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio to five years or less in accordance with its Investment Policy.

E. Concentration of Credit Risk

At June 30, 2022, in accordance with State law and the County’s Investment Policy, the County did not have 10% or more of its net investment in commercial paper, corporate bonds, or medium-term notes of a single organization, nor did it have 10% or more of its net investment in any one money market mutual fund. Investments in obligations of the U.S. government, U.S. government agencies, or government-sponsored enterprises are exempt from these limitations.

NOTE 2 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

F. Custodial Credit Risk

For investments and deposits held with fiscal agents, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the County will not be able to recover the value of its investments or deposits that are in the possession of an outside party. At year-end, the County's investment pool and cash with fiscal agents had no securities exposed to custodial credit risk.

G. Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)

The County is a participant in LAIF which is regulated by California Government Code Section 16429 under the oversight of the Treasurer of the State of California. The County's investments with LAIF at June 30, 2022, included a portion of the pooled funds invested in Structured Notes and Asset-Backed Securities:

Structured Notes: debt securities (other than asset-backed securities) whose cash flow characteristics (coupon rate, redemption amount, or stated maturity) depend upon one or more indices and/or have embedded forwards or options.

Asset-Backed Securities: mortgage-backed securities that entitle their purchasers to receive a share of the cash flows from a pool of assets such as principal and interest repayments from a pool of mortgages (for example, Collateralized Mortgage Obligations) or credit card receivables. %

As of June 30, 2022, the County had \$5,036,569 invested in LAIF, which had invested none of the pool investment funds in Structured Notes and Asset-Backed Securities just as in the previous year. LAIF provided a fair value factor of 0.987125414 to calculate the fair value of the investments in LAIF. However, an adjustment was not made to reflect the fair value of LAIF, as the fair value adjustment was considered immaterial.

H. Investment in County Investment Pool

The District is an involuntary participant in the County Investment Pool that is regulated by California Government Code Section 16429 under the oversight of the Treasurer of the State of California. The fair value of the District's investment in this pool is reported in the accompanying financial statements at amounts based upon the District's pro-rata share of the fair value provided by the County for the entire County portfolio. The balance available for withdrawal is based on the accounting records maintained by the County, which are recorded on a fair market value basis.

The County Treasurer's Investment Pool categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. These principles recognize a three-tiered fair value hierarchy, as follows:

Level 1 – Investments reflect prices quoted in active markets,

Level 2 – Investments reflect prices that are based on a similar observable asset either directly or indirectly, which may include inputs in markets that are not considered to be active, and

Level 3 – Investments reflect prices based upon unobservable sources.

NOTE 3 – CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2022, is as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2021	Additions	Deletions	Transfers	Balance June 30, 2022
Nondepreciable assets:					
Construction in progress	\$ 14,216,029	\$ 2,312,820	\$ -	\$ (9,933,683)	\$ 6,595,166
Total nondepreciable assets	14,216,029	2,312,820	-	(9,933,683)	6,595,166
Depreciable assets:					
Pumping stations	52,720,461	60,860	-	9,436,117	62,217,438
Transmission systems	144,550,307	1,293,674	-	497,566	146,341,547
Sewage treatment capacity rights	35,924,625	-	-	-	35,924,625
Mobile equipment	4,486,450	360,084	-	-	4,846,534
Other equipment	1,921,816	813,669	(73,923)	-	2,661,562
Total depreciable assets	239,603,659	2,528,287	(73,923)	9,933,683	251,991,706
Accumulated depreciation:					
Pumping stations	(28,223,627)	(1,080,348)	-	-	(29,303,975)
Transmission systems	(54,171,330)	(2,064,642)	-	-	(56,235,972)
Sewage treatment capacity rights	(19,488,021)	(2,171,635)	-	-	(21,659,656)
Mobile equipment	(3,204,430)	(189,748)	-	-	(3,394,178)
Other equipment	(1,586,174)	(178,158)	73,923	-	(1,690,409)
Total accumulated depreciation	(106,673,582)	(5,684,531)	73,923	-	(112,284,190)
Depreciable assets, net	132,930,077	(3,156,244)	-	9,933,683	139,707,516
Total capital assets, net	\$ 147,146,106	\$ (843,424)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146,302,682

The District owns 47% of capacity rights of the City of Santa Cruz (City) Treatment Plant. Operation and maintenance of these treatment and outfall facilities are the responsibility of the City, with the District paying its proportionate share based on actual levels of flow. The District's investment in the City Treatment Plant is included in the District's capital assets.

Depreciation expense for the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, was \$5,684,531.

NOTE 4 – LONG-TERM DEBT

The following is a summary of long-term liabilities transactions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022:

Description	Beginning Balance July 1, 2021	Additions/ Adjustments	Deletions	Ending Balance June 30, 2022	Amounts Due Within One Year	Amounts Due in More Than One Year
Loans Payable:						
State Water Resources Control Board 2009	\$ 7,519,200	\$ -	\$ (602,333)	\$ 6,916,867	\$ 617,391	\$ 6,299,476
State Water Resources Control Board 2020	4,259,956	794,459	(135,670)	4,918,745	130,665	4,788,080
IBank	6,855,975	-	(149,039)	6,706,936	154,164	6,552,772
Bonds Payable:						
2022 Green Bond	-	19,945,000	-	19,945,000	380,000	19,565,000
2022 Green Bond Premium	-	542,421	-	542,421	18,081	524,340
Total Loans and Bonds Payable, Net	\$ 18,635,131	\$ 21,281,880	\$ (887,042)	\$ 39,029,969	\$ 1,300,301	\$ 37,729,668

A. State Water Resources Control Board Loan 2009

During 2009, the District entered into a Project Finance Agreement (Agreement) with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to finance the Aptos Transmission Main Relocation Project. Under this Agreement, the SWRCB has agreed to loan the District a total of \$16,725,699. As of June 30, 2022, the District had a balance of \$6,916,867 in loan disbursements pursuant to this Agreement. Pursuant to the Agreement, the interest rate is 2.5% and the District began making payments to repay the loan in the 2013/2014 fiscal year.

NOTE 4 – LONG-TERM DEBT (Continued)

B. State Water Resources Control Board Loan 2020

During 2020, the District entered into a Construction Installment Sale Agreement (Agreement) with the SWRCB to finance the Soquel Pump Station Force Main Replacement Project. Under this Agreement, the SWRCB has agreed to loan the District a total of \$5,000,000. As of June 30, 2022, the District had a balance of \$4,918,745 in loan disbursements pursuant to this Agreement. Pursuant to the Agreement, the interest rate is 1.8% and the District is scheduled to begin making payments to repay the loan in the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

C. California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank) Loan

In April 2019, the District entered into an Installment Sale Agreement (IBank Loan Agreement) with IBank to reduce the frequency of Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) and, wherever possible, prevent SSO while meeting all applicable regulatory requirements by replacing old and deteriorated sewer lines prior to their failure. Under this IBank Loan Agreement, IBank has agreed to loan the District a total of \$7,000,000. Pursuant to the IBank Loan Agreement, the interest rate is 3.46% with the first principal payment due on August 1, 2020, with a loan maturity date of August 1, 2048. As of June 30, 2022, the District had a balance of \$6,706,936 in loan distributions pursuant to this IBank Loan Agreement.

D. Santa Cruz County Capital Financing Authority Revenue Bonds, Series 2022 (Green Bonds)

On June 1, 2022, the Santa Cruz County Capital Financing Authority issued Green Revenue Bonds for \$19,945,000. The bonds were issued in varying types. There are 14 serial bonds and 6 term bonds issued at a premium (the bonds). Serial bonds mature annually on June 1 between 2023 and 2036. The interest rate on the serial bonds is 5%. There are six term bonds. The first term bond, for \$1,265,000, was issued at an interest rate of 5% and matures on June 1, 2038. The second term bond for \$1,385,000, was issued at an interest rate of 4% and matures on June 1, 2040. The third term bond for \$1,500,000, was issued at an interest rate of 4% and matures on June 1, 2042. The fourth term bond for \$2,485,000, was issued at an interest rate of 4.125% and matures on June 1, 2045. The fifth term bond for \$2,810,000, was issued at an interest rate of 4.125% and matures on June 1, 2048. The sixth term bond for \$4,320,000 was issued at an interest rate of 4.25% and matures on June 1, 2052. The bonds were issued to finance wastewater improvements, specifically 5 separate components that make up the wastewater improvement project. As of June 30, 2022, the District had an outstanding balance of \$19,945,000.

The annual requirements to amortize to maturity all long-term debt outstanding including interest payable are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	Revenue Bonds		Loans Payable		Total	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2023	\$ 380,000	\$ 818,001	\$ 902,220	\$ 402,316	\$ 1,282,220	\$ 1,220,317
2024	325,000	870,669	925,311	458,165	1,250,311	1,328,834
2025	345,000	854,419	949,075	434,778	1,294,075	1,289,197
2026	360,000	837,169	973,439	410,768	1,333,439	1,247,937
2027	380,000	819,169	998,448	386,117	1,378,448	1,205,286
2028-2032	2,200,000	3,791,594	5,391,303	1,537,045	7,591,303	5,328,639
2033-2037	2,805,000	3,184,094	1,970,263	1,016,176	4,775,263	4,200,270
2038-2042	3,535,000	2,452,194	2,260,982	735,725	5,795,982	3,187,919
2043-2047	4,320,000	1,668,131	2,598,641	408,947	6,918,641	2,077,078
2048-2052	5,295,000	692,381	1,572,866	89,081	6,867,866	781,462
Sub-Total	19,945,000	\$ 15,987,821	\$ 18,542,548	\$ 5,879,118	38,487,548	\$ 21,866,939
Unamortized Premium	542,421			Unamortized Premium	542,421	
Total Revenue Bonds	\$ 20,487,421			Total	\$ 39,029,969	

NOTE 5 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or damage to and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters.

The District is included within the terms of the County's insurance coverage. The County is self-insured for its general and auto liability, workers' compensation, and property coverage. The County has chosen to establish risk-financing internal service funds, where assets are set aside for claim settlements associated with the above risk of loss up to certain limits. Excess coverage is provided by the Public Risk Innovation, Solutions, and Management (PRISM) Program (formerly known as the California State Association of Counties Excess Insurance Authority), a joint powers authority whose purpose is to develop and fund programs of excess insurance for its member counties and public entities.

As of June 30, 2022, the workers' compensation self-insured retention is \$500,000.

The unpaid claims liability included in each of the County's Self-Insurance Internal Service Funds are based on the results of actuarial studies and include amounts for claims incurred but not reported. Claim liabilities are calculated considering the effects of inflation, recent claim settlement trends, including frequency and amount of payouts, and other economic and social factors. It is the County's practice to obtain full actuarial studies bi-annually. Annual premiums are charged by each self-insurance fund using various allocation methods which include actual costs, claims experience, claims exposures, and number of participants.

Management is not aware of any claims pending against the District. There have been no reductions in the District's insurance coverage from the prior year and no settlement amounts have exceeded commercial insurance coverage.

NOTE 6 – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

There are various claims and legal actions pending against the District for which no provision has been made in the accompanying basic financial statements. In the opinion of the District's management, liabilities arising from these claims and legal actions, if any, will not have an adverse material effect on the financial position of the District.

The District has received Federal grants for specific purposes that are subject to review and audit by the Federal government. Although such audits could result in expenditure disallowance under grant terms, the required reimbursements, if any, are not expected to be material.

As of June 30, 2022, in the opinion of District Management, there were no outstanding matters that would have a significant effect on the financial position of the District.

NOTE 7 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated through December 21, 2022, which is the day the financial statements were available to be issued. Management did not identify any subsequent financial events.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Board of Directors of the
Santa Cruz County Sanitation District
Santa Cruz, California

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District (the District), a component unit of the County of Santa Cruz (the County), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 21, 2022.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) relating to the District as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness the County's internal control relating to the District. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control relating to the District.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of the County's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control or on compliance relating to the District. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control and compliance relating to the District. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

BROWN ARMSTRONG
ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bakersfield, California
December 21, 2022

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
JUNE 30, 2022**

CURRENT YEAR SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

None noted.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

None noted.